

REMARKS

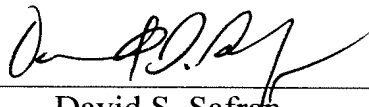
By the above actions, claims 38 and 48 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 41 and 61, respectively, which claims have been cancelled as a result. Additionally claim 43 has been amended to correct a typographical error. In view of these actions and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 48-61 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter in that the claims were assert to produce a tangible result. Whatever appropriateness this rejection might have had with respect to independent claim 48, a fact not conceded by applicants, it certainly was inappropriate with regard to most if not all of the rejected dependent claims which most certainly reflect a process that achieves a “tangible result” and doe not “consist solely of manipulation of an abstract idea.” In the case of original claim 61 the subject matter of which is now incorporated into independent claim 48, a very clear tangible result is obtained. That is, the process of claim 48/61 results in the determining of the amount of “remaining service life, until occurrence of damage that adversely affects serviceability of the rotating component and/or of the bearing” and such is not an abstract idea and is a very tangible result that enables damage to be avoided by timely repair or replacement. On the basis of the foregoing, withdrawal of the § 101 rejection is in order and is now requested.

With regard to the prior art rejection based on the Choe et al. patent, it has been rendered moot by the above actions since, as indicated by the Examiner, the subject matter of claims 41 and 61 (that is now in the independent claims) is patentable over the prior art. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection under 35 USC § 102 is in order and is hereby requested.

While this application should now be in condition for allowance, in the event that any issues should remain after consideration of this response which could be addressed through discussions with the undersigned, then the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned by telephone for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David S. Safran', is written over a horizontal line.

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